SPOOK

NO. 24

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10¢

TALES OF SUSPENSE AND MYSTERY

MAR 13

L B Cole

THE EERIE, UNEARTHLY SOUND OF A SARCOPHAGUS SWINGING OPEN BROUGHT A WILD CRY OF HORROR TO THE LIPS OF THE MAN WHO DARE DEFILE THE TOMB OF AN ANCIENT. THIS PLUNDERER HAD BROUGHT DOWN ON HIS HEAD△△△△△△△

THE MUMMY'S curse!!

Supermouse
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NEW FIGURE MOLD *French* WAIST

ONLY 2.48

FEATURES Galore
Streamline Waistline. Hide Bulges. Adjustable. Washable. Made of satin and 2 way stretch. Fully guaranteed. Light weight. Cool. Will not rumple or ride up. Sizes 20 to 44.

FEATURES STREAM-LINE WAISTLINE HIDE BULGES

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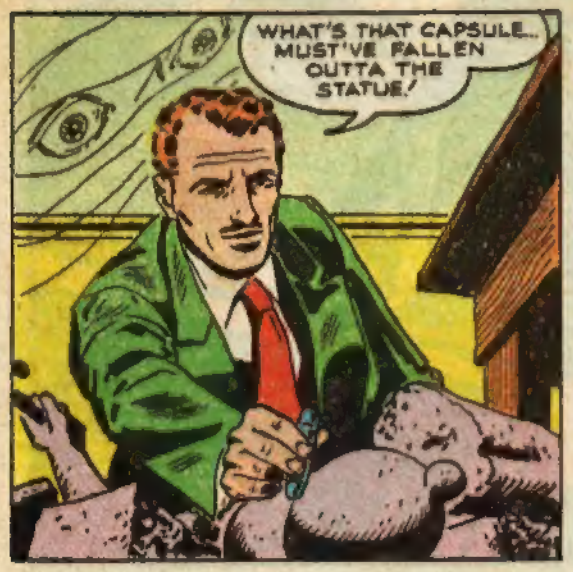
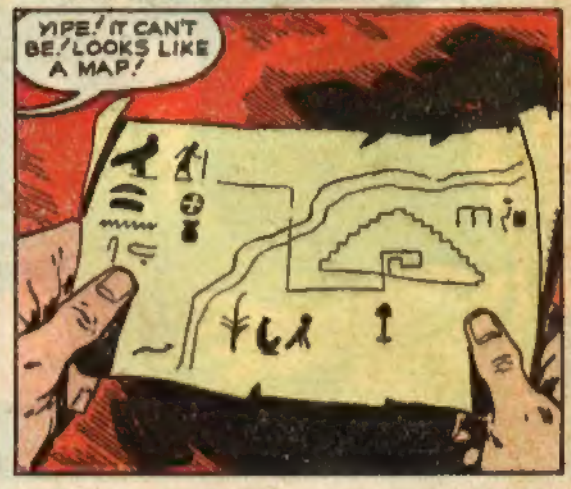
OLD MR. DUNDEE WAS ABOUT TO CLOSE SHOP FOR THE NIGHT! A KNOCK ON THE DOOR OF HIS SMALL ANTIQUE SHOP STARTLED HIM! WHO COULD THAT BE, SO LATE AT NIGHT? HE OPENED THE DOOR TO A SUAVE LOOKING YOUNG MAN AND...

THE OLD SHOPKEEPER DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE! BILL BROGAN FIRED TWO SHOTS AND THE OLD MAN LAY LIFELESS ON THE FLOOR...

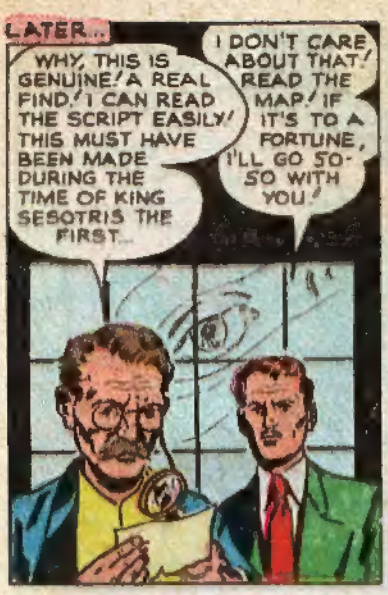
BACK IN HIS DINGY ROOM BILL BROGAN LOOKS AT HIS 'HAUL' WITH DISGUST...



FIRED BY CURIOSITY BROGAN FEVERISHLY TORE THE CAPSULE OPEN AND PULLED OUT A PAPYRUS SCROLL WITH STRANGE WRITING AND MARKINGS ON ITS ANCIENT FACE...



THE "PROFESSOR" WAS A FORMER ARCHEOLOGIST TURNED CRIMINAL...AND IT WAS TO THE "PROFESSORS" HOME THAT BROGAN HURRIED IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT...



THE NEXT NIGHT THE PAIR BOARDED A CARGO VESSEL BOUND FOR AFRICA, AND WITHIN A FEW WEEKS FOUND THEIR WAY TO THEIR GOAL...

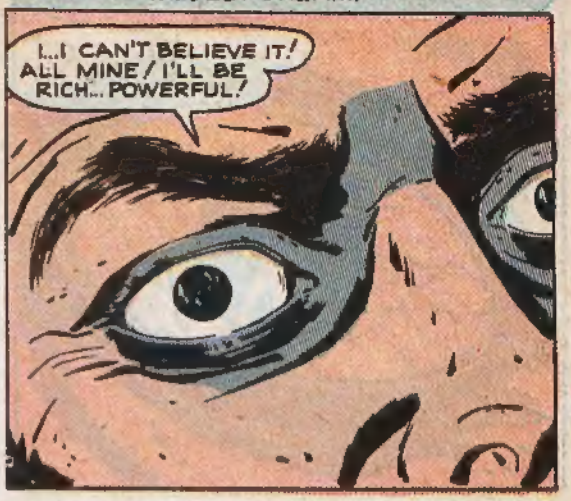
IMPATIENTLY THE FORTUNE HUNGRY PAIR WAITED FOR THE BLANKET OF NIGHT TO COVER THEIR EVIL DOING... AT LAST...

LONG FRUSTRATING HOURS PASS AND AT LAST THE ANCIENT STONE RELENTED AND FELL INTO THE TOMB...

THEY CREPT INTO THE PYRAMID AND BROGAN'S GREED TWITCHED IN HIS HANDS...
NOW! NOW'S THE TIME TO KILL HIM! I DON'T NEED HIM ANYMORE! BESIDES IT'S ALL MINE ANYWAY! MINE!
FOLLOW ME! THIS WAY!
SORRY "PROF"! THIS IS WHERE I GET OFF!
BROGAN! YOU GONE MAD!
NOW BROGAN HALF MAD WITH GOLD FEVER LEFT THE BATTERED LIFELESS BODY OF THE "PROFESSOR" AND RACED DOWN THE STEPS IN SEARCH OF THE TOMB...
NOW IT'S ALL MINE! HA-HA-ALL MINE! I'M RICH... I'LL LIVE LIKE A KING! GOT TO FIND THE TOMB...
MUST BE AT THE END OF THE PASSAGEWAY...1...I CAN'T WAIT! I CAN'T WAIT!
AT LAST...
THERE IT IS! THAT'S GOT TO BE IT! I FOUND IT! I FOUND IT!

LIKE A RAVING BULL, BROGAN HURLED HIMSELF AGAINST THE DOOR AGAIN AND AGAIN! FINALLY THE ANCIENT HINGES SQUEEKED LOUDLY AND GAVE WAY UNDER THE IMPACT OF HIS FRENZIED RUSHES...

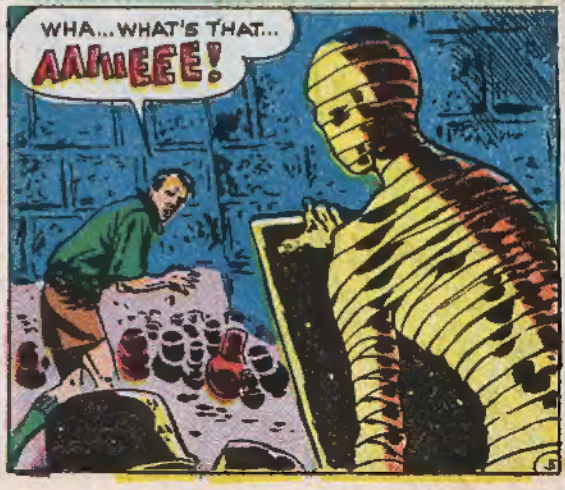
THE SIGHT BEFORE HIM DAZZLED HIS EYES! AN UNTOUCHED TOMB WITH EVERY PRECIOUS ARTICLE INTACT! THIS WAS BEYOND HIS WILDEST DREAM!



HIS UNHOLY JOY KNEW NO BOUNDS! HE GLOATED IN THE TREASURE, REVELED WITH IT, SHOWERED HIMSELF WITH IT, ROLLED IN IT...HIS MIND ALMOST SNAPPED WITH THE JOY OF IT!

BROGAN...SO WILD WITH HIS LUST FOR TREASURE DID NOT NOTICE THE WEIRD MOVEMENT IN THE COFFIN BEHIND HIM...

THE EERIE, UNEARTHLY, SQUEEKING OF THE COFFIN SPUN BROGAN AROUND IN SURPRISE AND IN UNBELIEVING TERROR...HE WATCHED WITH HORROR...A MUMMY ROSE OUT OF THE TOMB...

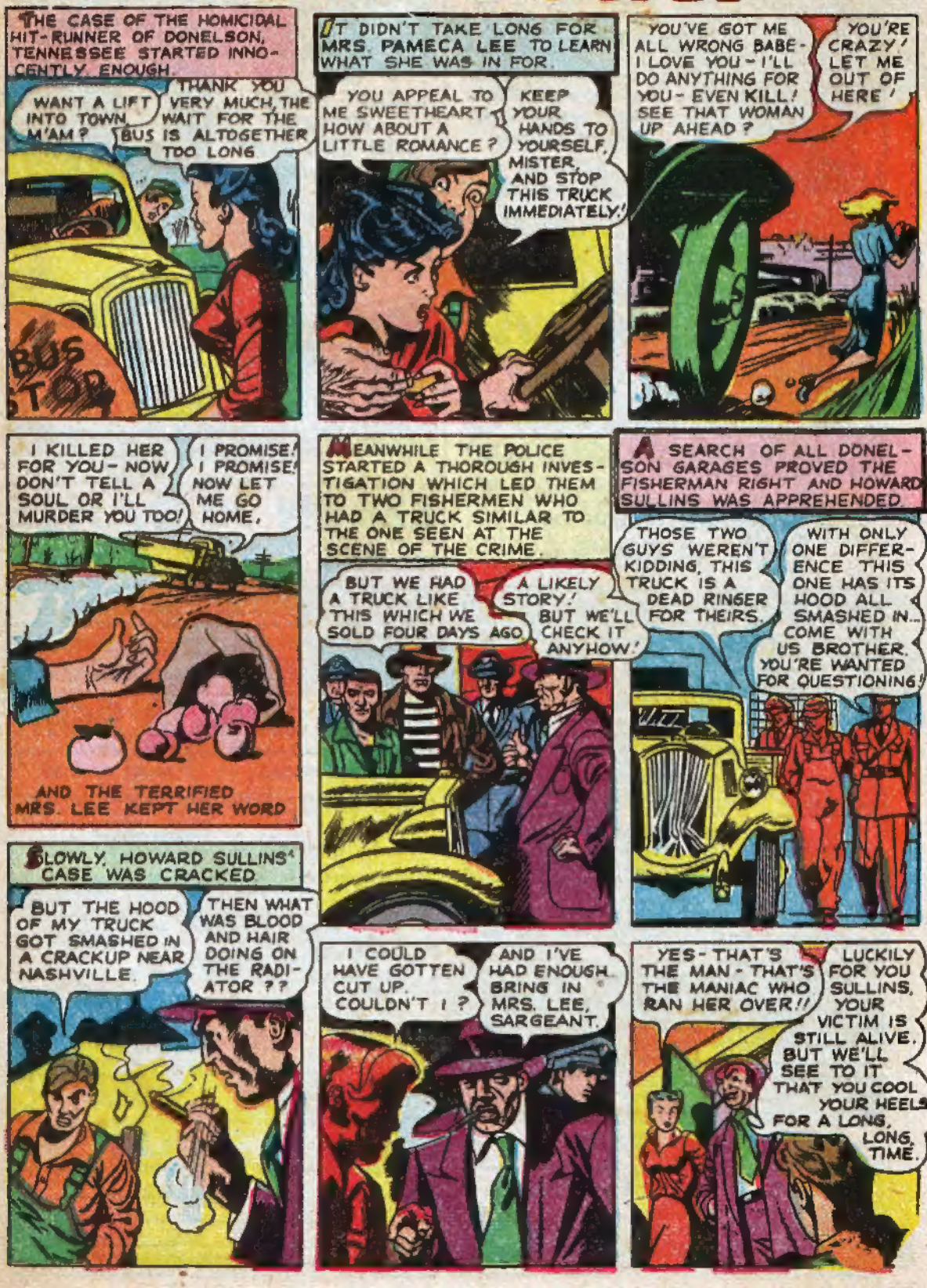


SLOWLY THE MUMMY UNRAVELED THE CLOTH THAT BOUND IT... AND STILL ADVANCED...

WHO IS TO SAY? WHO CAN KNOW THE STRANGE MYSTERIES OF THE ANCIENTS? WHO CAN SAY THAT THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS REINCARNATION? TO BROGAN IT WAS TRUE THAT PEOPLE RETURN AGAIN IN LIFE IN DIFFERENT TIMES, IN DIFFERENT PLACES! HOW ELSE COULD HE EXPLAIN THIS HORROR BEFORE HIM?

BROGAN STUMBLING BACK IN FEAR FELL INTO THE COFFIN... THE MUMMY CLOSED THE LID OVER HIM... AND BEFORE LONG HIS MUFFLED SCREAMS DIED AWAY... LATER...

SPOOK DIARY


THE CASE OF THE HOMICIDAL HIT-RUNNER OF DONELSON, TENNESSEE STARTED INNOCENTLY ENOUGH
WANT A LIFT INTO TOWN M'AM?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, THE WAIT FOR THE BUS IS ALTOGETHER TOO LONG
BUS STOP
IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR MRS. PAMECA LEE TO LEARN WHAT SHE WAS IN FOR.
YOU APPEAL TO ME SWEETHEART HOW ABOUT A LITTLE ROMANCE?
KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF, MISTER, AND STOP THIS TRUCK IMMEDIATELY!
YOU'VE GOT ME ALL WRONG BABE - I LOVE YOU - I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU - EVEN KILL! SEE THAT WOMAN UP AHEAD?
YOU'RE CRAZY! LET ME OUT OF HERE!
I KILLED HER FOR YOU - NOW DON'T TELL A SOUL OR I'LL MURDER YOU TOO!
I PROMISE! I PROMISE! NOW LET ME GO HOME.
AND THE TERRIFIED MRS. LEE KEPT HER WORD
MEANWHILE THE POLICE STARTED A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION WHICH LED THEM TO TWO FISHERMEN WHO HAD A TRUCK SIMILAR TO THE ONE SEEN AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.
BUT WE HAD A TRUCK LIKE THIS WHICH WE SOLD FOUR DAYS AGO
A LIKELY STORY! BUT WE'LL CHECK IT ANYHOW!
A SEARCH OF ALL DONELSON GARAGES PROVED THE FISHERMAN RIGHT AND HOWARD SULLINS WAS APPREHENDED.
THOSE TWO GUYS WEREN'T KIDDING, THIS TRUCK IS A DEAD RINGER FOR THEIRS.
WITH ONLY ONE DIFFERENCE THIS ONE HAS ITS HOOD ALL SMASHED IN... COME WITH US BROTHER. YOU'RE WANTED FOR QUESTIONING!
SLOWLY, HOWARD SULLINS' CASE WAS CRACKED
BUT THE HOOD OF MY TRUCK GOT SMASHED IN A CRACKUP NEAR NASHVILLE.
THEN WHAT WAS BLOOD AND HAIR DOING ON THE RADIATOR??
I COULD HAVE GOTTEN CUT UP. COULDN'T I?
AND I'VE HAD ENOUGH. BRING IN MRS. LEE, SARGEANT.
YES - THAT'S THE MAN - THAT'S THE MANIAC WHO RAN HER OVER!!
LUCKILY FOR YOU SULLINS, YOUR VICTIM IS STILL ALIVE. BUT WE'LL SEE TO IT THAT YOU COOL YOUR HEELS FOR A LONG, LONG, TIME.

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LOSE WEIGHT OR NO COST!

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Reducing Specialist Says:

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REDUCE MOST ANY PART OF THE BODY WITH

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Relaxing · Soothing
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Like a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" obeys your every wish. Most any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the "Spot Reducer" can aid you in acquiring a youthful, slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steambaths, drugs or laxatives.

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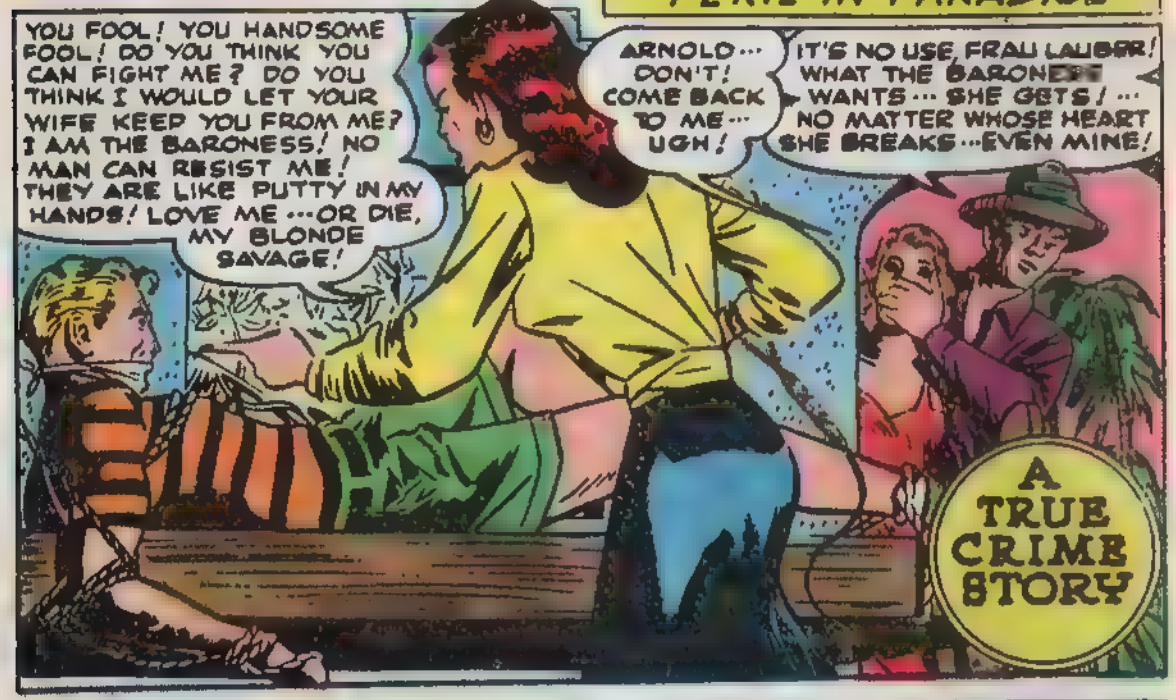
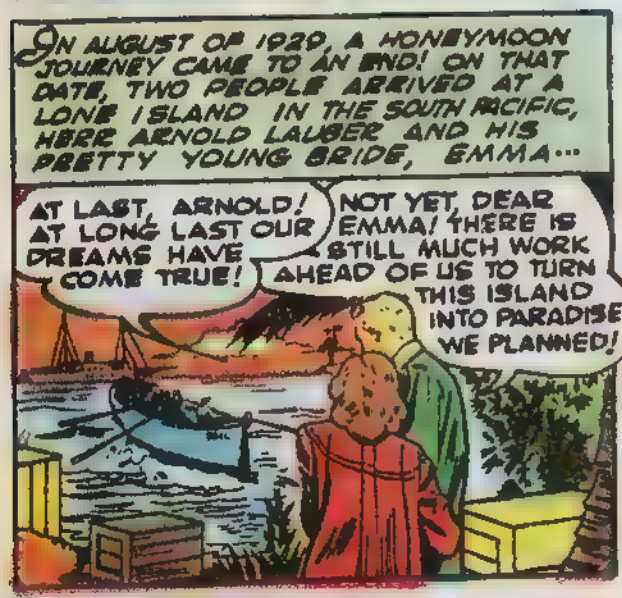
LOSE WEIGHT OR MONEY BACK

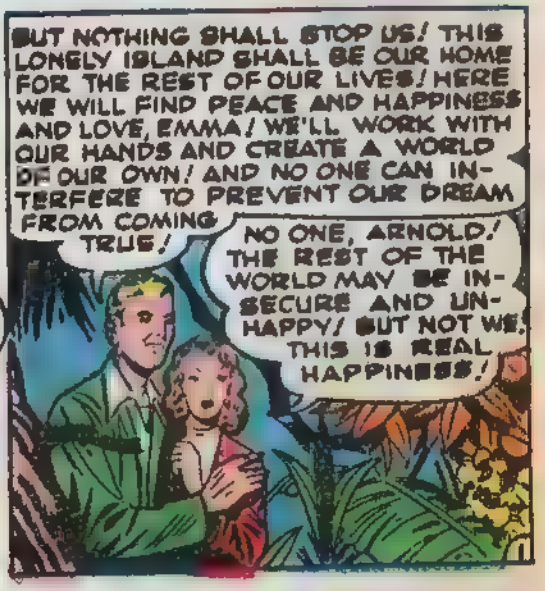
MAD DEMON OF THE GRAVE

THEY DID WHAT ALL LOVERS DREAM OF DOING ··· THEY WENT TO THE SOUTH SEAS TO LIVE IN AN ISLAND PARADISE ALL THEIR OWN ··· AS PRIMITIVE AND UNSPOILED A PLACE AS THE GARDEN OF ADAM AND EVE! BUT··EDEN HAD IT'S SERPENT ··· AND THIS ISLAND HAD ITS SPOILER, TOO! BUT THIS INTRUDER WAS A WOMAN ··· BEAUTIFUL, DESIRABLE ··· AND DANGEROUS! THIS IS THE STRANGE, UNBELIEVABLE, BUT TRUE STORY OF...

PERIL IN PARADISE







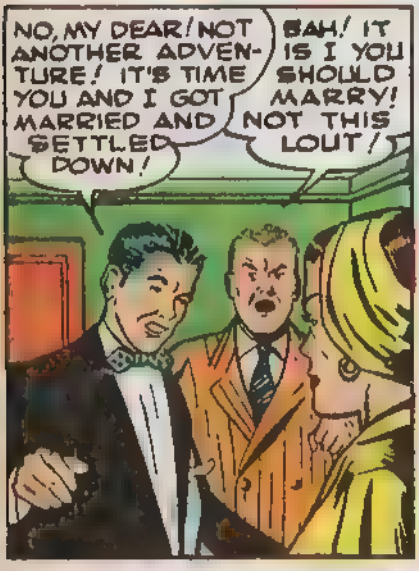
THE LAUBERS TOILED HARD AT THEIR LABOR OF LOVE AND AS THE MONTHS WENT BY, THEY CREATED A HOME IN THEIR ISLAND PARADISE.

BUT NEWS OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENT COULD NOT BE KEPT SECRET FOREVER! THE STORY CAUGHT THE IMAGINATION OF THE WORLD INCLUDING THAT OF THE BARONESS ELOISE WAGNER-BOUSQUET, A LADY WITH MANY INTERESTS ...

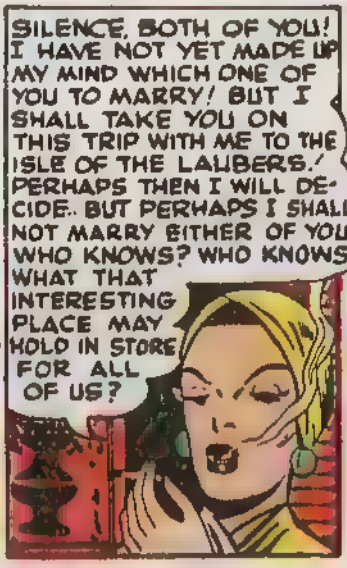
HMM ... AN IDEAL LIFE INDEED ... AND AN IDEAL YOUNG MAN! MY DEAR BARONESS, I THINK YOU SHOULD LOOK INTO THIS AT ONCE!

NO, MY DEAR! NOT ANOTHER ADVENTURE! IT'S TIME YOU AND I GOT MARRIED AND SETTLED DOWN!

BAH! IT IS I YOU SHOULD MARRY! NOT THIS LOUT!



SILENCE, BOTH OF YOU! I HAVE NOT YET MADE UP MY MIND WHICH ONE OF YOU TO MARRY! BUT I SHALL TAKE YOU ON THIS TRIP WITH ME TO THE ISLE OF THE LAUBERS! PERHAPS THEN I WILL DECIDE. BUT PERHAPS I SHALL NOT MARRY EITHER OF YOU! WHO KNOWS? WHO KNOWS WHAT THAT INTERESTING PLACE MAY HOLD IN STORE FOR ALL OF US?

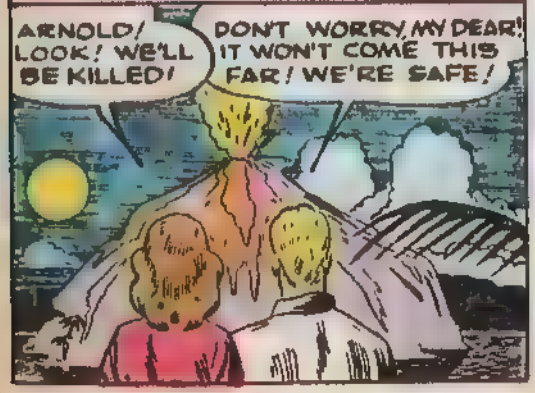


THE BARONESS WAS A STRANGE WOMAN, WEALTHY RESTLESS, ALWAYS SEEKING NEW THRILLS AND EXCITEMENT! JOHANN STEFFER AND OTTO BRUNIG WERE MADLY IN LOVE WITH HER AND HATED EACH OTHER ... THIS WAS THE WEIRD TRIO THAT SET SAIL FOR THE ISLE OF PARADISE!

ON AN EVENING IN SEPTEMBER, 1932, EMMA AND ARNOLD BEHELD AN AWESOME SIGHT ... A VOLCANO ON A NEARBY ISLAND WAS IN FULL ERUPTION AND THEY WONDERED IF THEIR ISLE OF DREAMS WOULD BE DESTROYED!

ARNOLD! LOOK! WE'LL BE KILLED!

DON'T WORRY, MY DEAR! IT WON'T COME THIS FAR! WE'RE SAFE!

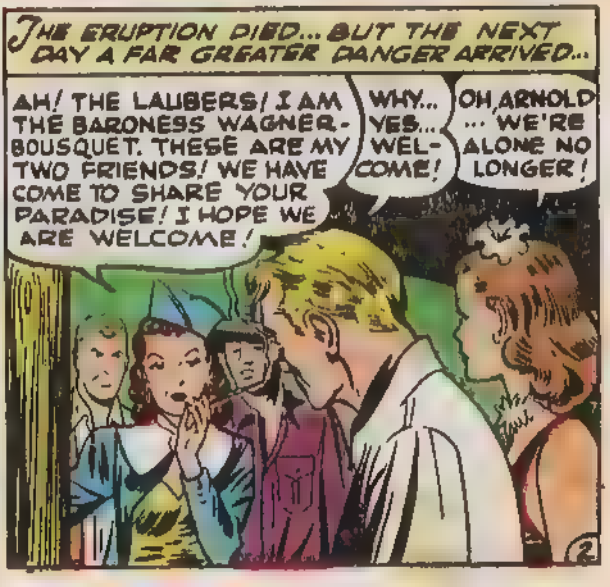


THE ERUPTION DIED ... BUT THE NEXT DAY A FAR GREATER DANGER ARRIVED ...

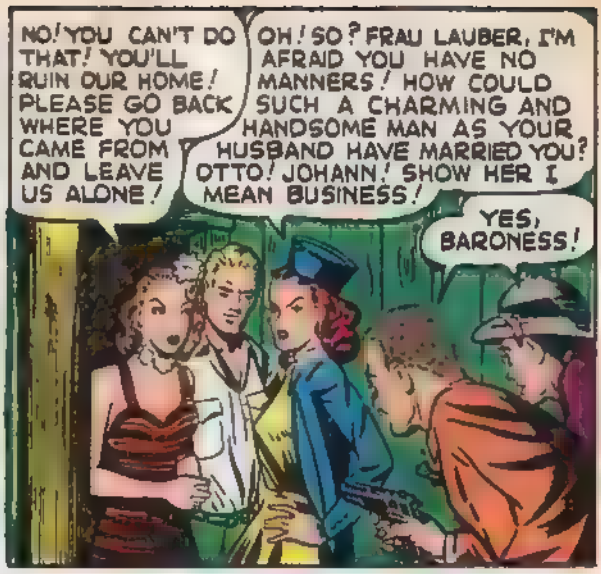
AH! THE LAUBERS! I AM THE BARONESS WAGNER-BOUSQUET. THESE ARE MY TWO FRIENDS! WE HAVE COME TO SHARE YOUR PARADISE! I HOPE WE ARE WELCOME!

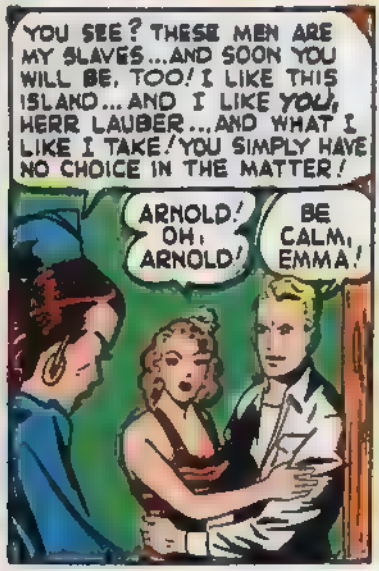
WHY... YES... WELCOME!

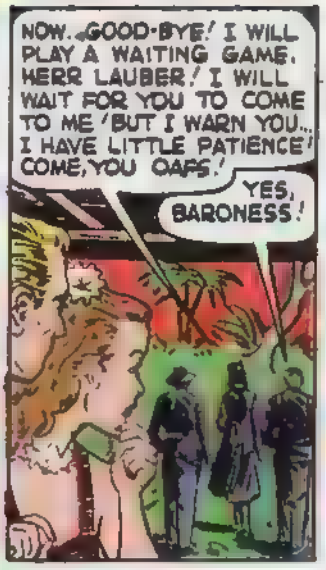
OH, ARNOLD ... WE'RE ALONE NO LONGER!

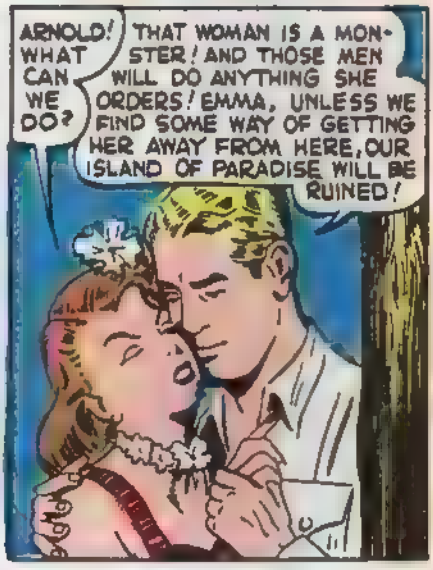


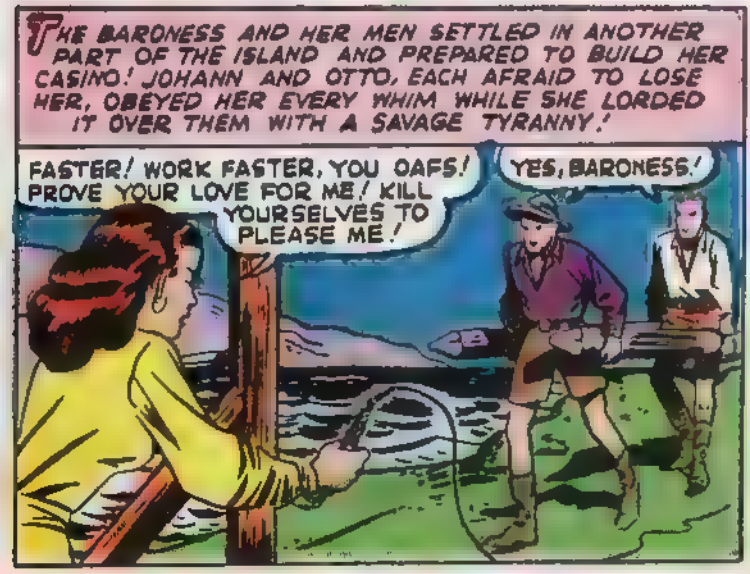
I'M AFRAID THIS IS NO PLACE FOR A LADY SUCH AS YOU, BARONESS! OUR LIFE HERE IS PRIMITIVE AND UNCOMFORTABLE!
TUSH! I SHALL REMEDY ALL THAT! I HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY AND INTEND TO BUILD A GAMBLING CASINO HERE AND MAKE IT A RESORT FOR TOURISTS!


NO! YOU CAN'T DO THAT! YOU'LL RUIN OUR HOME! PLEASE GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM AND LEAVE US ALONE!
OH! SO? FRAU LAUBER, I'M AFRAID YOU HAVE NO MANNERS! HOW COULD SUCH A CHARMING AND HANDSOME MAN AS YOUR HUSBAND HAVE MARRIED YOU? OTTO! JOHANN! SHOW HER I MEAN BUSINESS!
YES, BARONESS!


YOU SEE? THESE MEN ARE MY SLAVES...AND SOON YOU WILL BE, TOO! I LIKE THIS ISLAND...AND I LIKE YOU, HERR LAUBER...AND WHAT I LIKE I TAKE! YOU SIMPLY HAVE NO CHOICE IN THE MATTER!
ARNOLD! OH, ARNOLD!
BE CALM, EMMA!

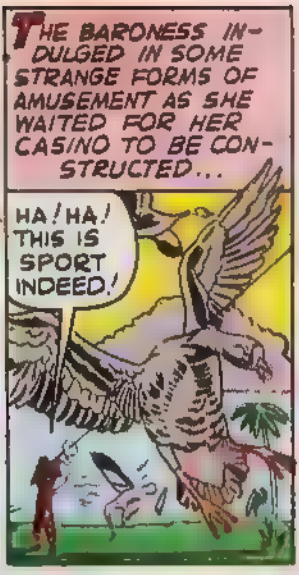

NOW...GOOD-BYE! I WILL PLAY A WAITING GAME, HERR LAUBER! I WILL WAIT FOR YOU TO COME TO ME! BUT I WARN YOU... I HAVE LITTLE PATIENCE! COME, YOU OAFS!
YES, BARONESS!

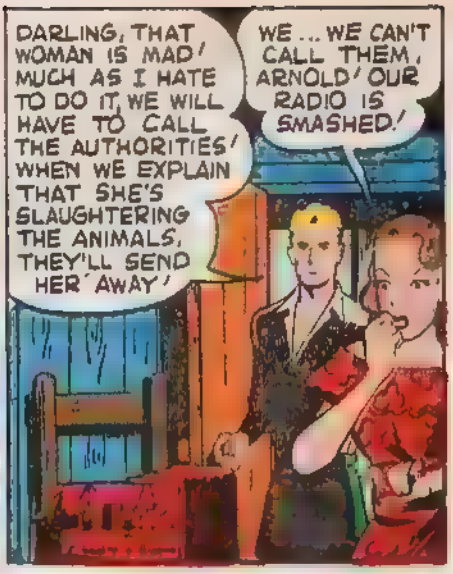

ARNOLD! WHAT CAN WE DO?
THAT WOMAN IS A MONSTER! AND THOSE MEN WILL DO ANYTHING SHE ORDERS! EMMA, UNLESS WE FIND SOME WAY OF GETTING HER AWAY FROM HERE, OUR ISLAND OF PARADISE WILL BE RUINED!

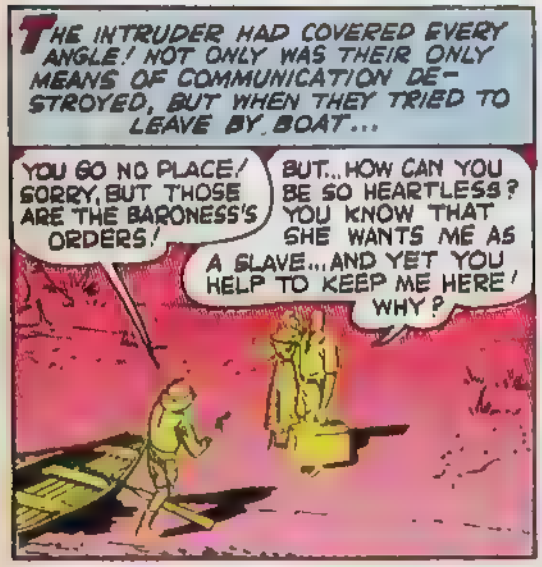

THE BARONESS AND HER MEN SETTLED IN ANOTHER PART OF THE ISLAND AND PREPARED TO BUILD HER CASINO! JOHANN AND OTTO, EACH AFRAID TO LOSE HER, OBEYED HER EVERY WHIM WHILE SHE LORDED IT OVER THEM WITH A SAVAGE TYRANNY!
FASTER! WORK FASTER, YOU OAFS! PROVE YOUR LOVE FOR ME! KILL YOURSELVES TO PLEASE ME!
YES, BARONESS!

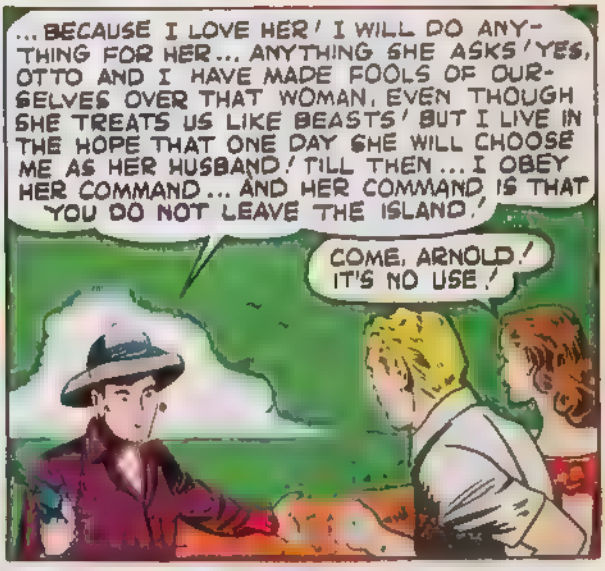
...AND THAT HANDSOME LAUBER! AH, HE IS INDEED CHARMING! HE WILL MAKE A NICE PLAYTHING FOR ME! HE'LL BE MY SLAVE, AS YOU ARE!..AND IF HE DOESN'T COME TO ME SOON... I WILL GO AND GET HIM!

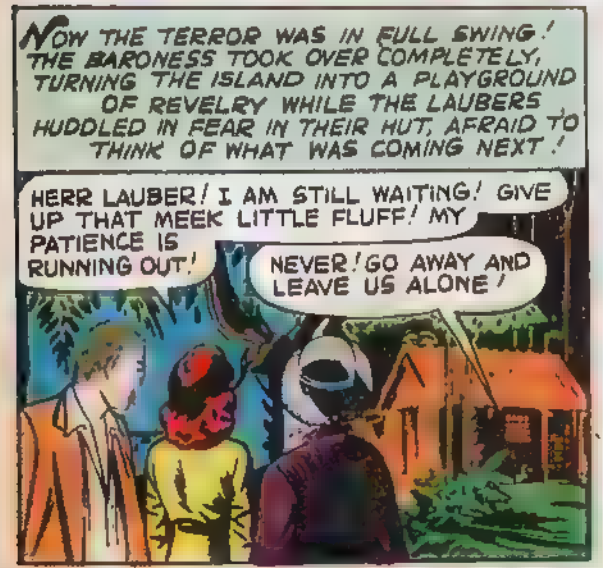
ELOISE, HOW MUCH LONGER DO YOU THINK I CAN TAKE THIS SORT OF THING! I LOVE YOU... AND YET YOU PLAY AROUND WITH EVERY...
SILENCE, JOHANN! I DO WHAT I WANT... WHENEVER I WANT! MEN ARE JUST PLAYTHINGS TO ME! NOW... SILENCE... OR I'LL SEND YOU BACK TO EUROPE!


THE BARONESS INDULGED IN SOME STRANGE FORMS OF AMUSEMENT AS SHE WAITED FOR HER CASINO TO BE CONSTRUCTED...
HA! HA! THIS IS SPORT INDEED!


DARLING, THAT WOMAN IS MAD! MUCH AS I HATE TO DO IT, WE WILL HAVE TO CALL THE AUTHORITIES! WHEN WE EXPLAIN THAT SHE'S SLAUGHTERING THE ANIMALS, THEY'LL SEND HER AWAY!
WE ... WE CAN'T CALL THEM, ARNOLD! OUR RADIO IS SMASHED!


THE INTRUDER HAD COVERED EVERY ANGLE! NOT ONLY WAS THEIR ONLY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION DESTROYED, BUT WHEN THEY TRIED TO LEAVE BY BOAT...
YOU GO NO PLACE! SORRY, BUT THOSE ARE THE BARONESS'S ORDERS!
BUT... HOW CAN YOU BE SO HEARTLESS? YOU KNOW THAT SHE WANTS ME AS A SLAVE... AND YET YOU HELP TO KEEP ME HERE! WHY?


... BECAUSE I LOVE HER! I WILL DO ANYTHING FOR HER... ANYTHING SHE ASKS! YES, OTTO AND I HAVE MADE FOOLS OF OURSELVES OVER THAT WOMAN, EVEN THOUGH SHE TREATS US LIKE BEASTS! BUT I LIVE IN THE HOPE THAT ONE DAY SHE WILL CHOOSE ME AS HER HUSBAND! TILL THEN ... I OBEY HER COMMAND... AND HER COMMAND IS THAT YOU DO NOT LEAVE THE ISLAND!
COME, ARNOLD! IT'S NO USE!


NOW THE TERROR WAS IN FULL SWING! THE BARONESS TOOK OVER COMPLETELY, TURNING THE ISLAND INTO A PLAYGROUND OF REVELRY WHILE THE LAUBERS HUDDLED IN FEAR IN THEIR HUT, AFRAID TO THINK OF WHAT WAS COMING NEXT!
HERR LAUBER! I AM STILL WAITING! GIVE UP THAT MEEK LITTLE FLUFF! MY PATIENCE IS RUNNING OUT!
NEVER! GO AWAY AND LEAVE US ALONE!

I GET WHAT I WANT, ARNOLD LAUBER! I AM RICH... AND BEAUTIFUL! MANY MEN HAVE BEEN ATTRACTED TO ME... LIKE THESE TWO FOOLS OF MINE! YOU WILL SHARE MY WEALTH AS WELL AS MY LOVE! YOU HAVE ONLY TO SAY THE WORD! I SHALL GIVE YOU UNTIL TOMORROW NIGHT TO CHANGE YOUR MIND! BUT I WON'T WAIT ANY LONGER!
4

THAT NIGHT THERE WAS NO SLEEP FOR THE LAUBERS! SOUNDS OF REVELRY AND QUARRELING CAME FROM THE HOUSE OF THE BARONESS!

ARNOLD, WHAT COULD BE GOING ON?

I...I DON'T KNOW! BUT I DON'T LIKE IT, EMMA! IT SOUNDS LIKE BEDLAM ITSELF!

ELOISE, YOU'VE GOT TO CHOOSE! I TELL YOU, SEND THIS LOUT AWAY AND MARRY ME!

WHAT? I AM THE ONE WHO LOVES HER ...NOT YOU!

HA! HA! HA!

HO! THIS IS GOOD! YOU AMUSE ME! GO ON... AMUSE ME SOME MORE! FIGHT FOR MY LOVE, JOHANN AND OTTO! BUT ..FIGHT TO THE DEATH! ONLY ONE OF YOU CAN SURVIVE AND WIN MY LOVE! GO ON — FIGHT!

THIS IS WHAT I BEEN WAITING FOR! IT WILL BE A PLEASURE!

YES...FOR ME! THE BARONESS WILL BE MINE!

HA! HA! WHAT FOOLS MEN CAN BE!

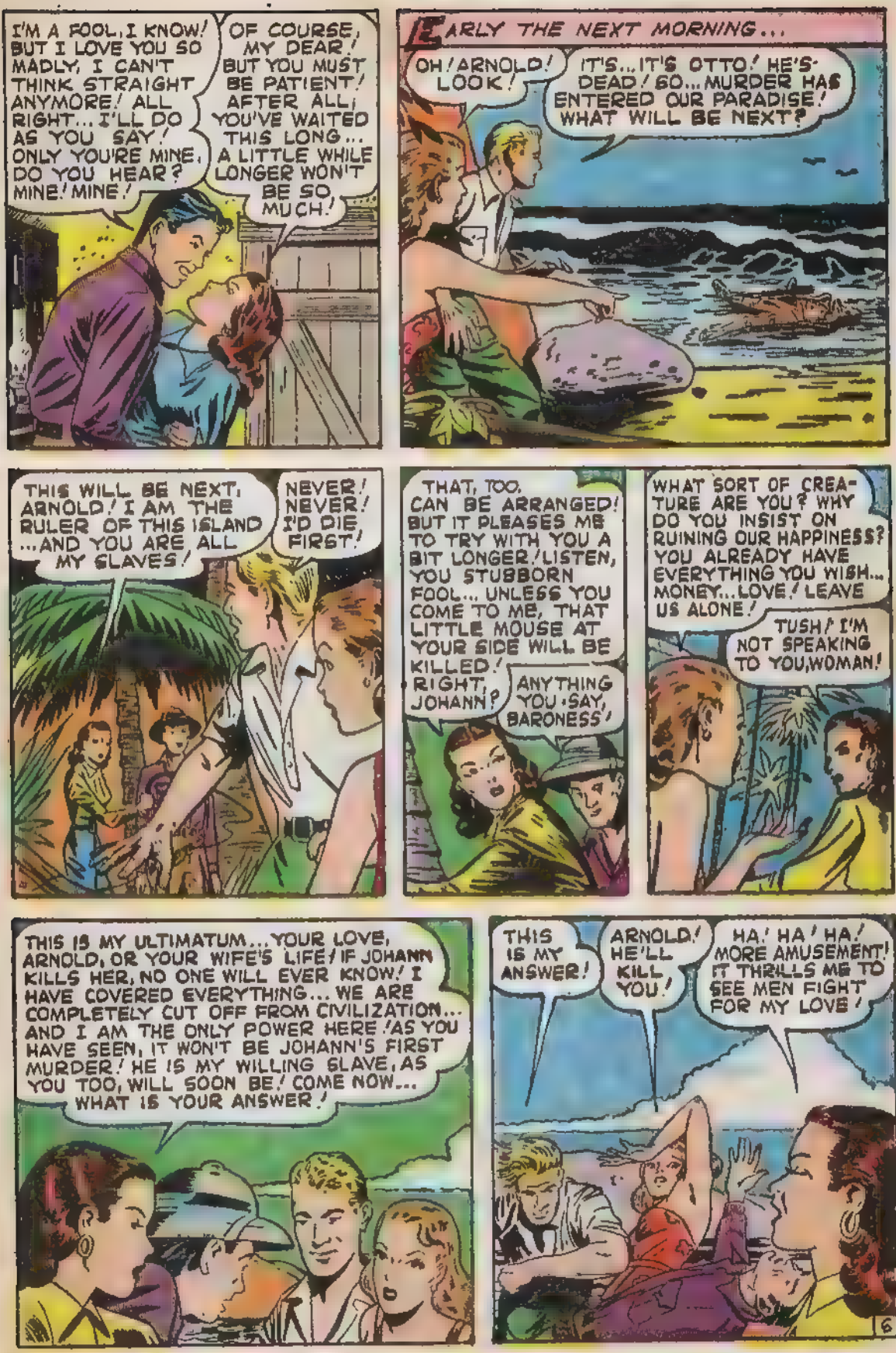
THE BATTLE WAS GRIM, VIOLENT AND DEADLY! WITH THEIR BARE HANDS, JOHANN STEFFER AND OTTO BRUNIG FOUGHT EACH OTHER, KNOWING THAT THE REWARD OF VICTORY WAS THE BARONESS...AND THE PRICE OF DEFEAT WAS... DEATH!

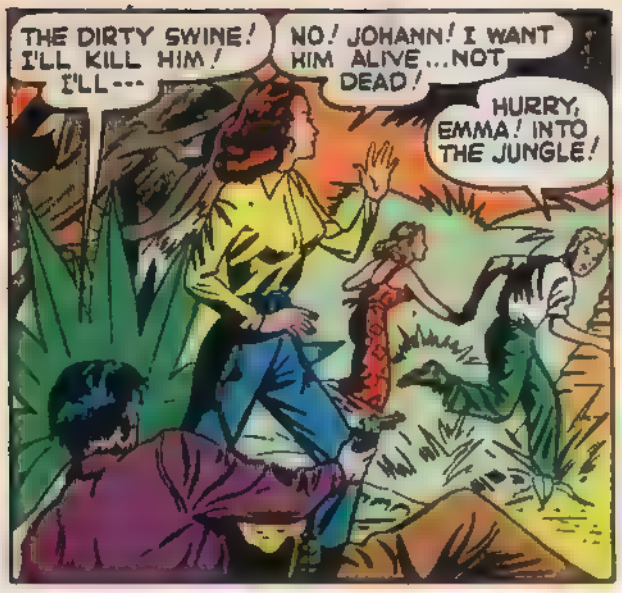
DIE! DIE! THE BARONESS IS MINE! MINE!

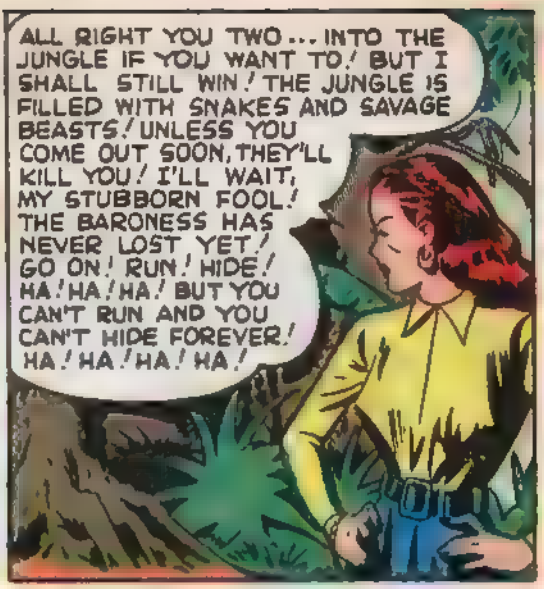
HA! HA! BRAVO JOHANN! BRAVO! FOR A FEW MOMENTS YOU HAVE PROVIDED ME WITH SOME AMUSEMENT!

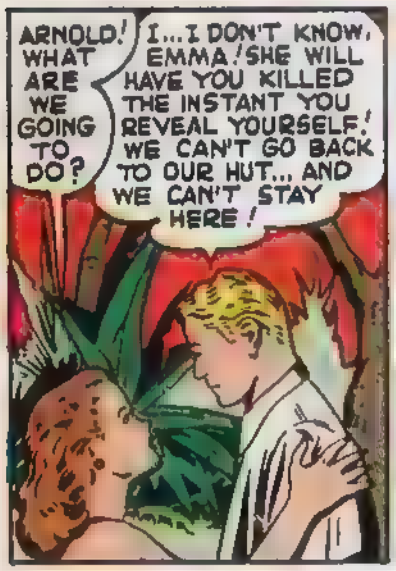
ELOISE! YOU BELONG TO ME NOW! I HAVE WON YOU!

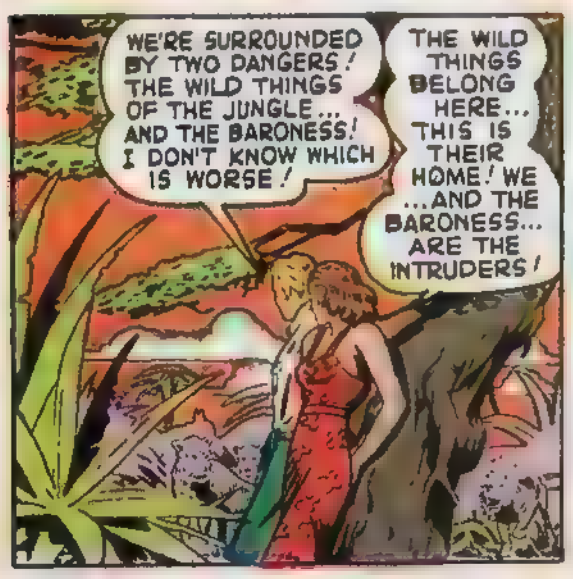
NOT YET, MY HASTY ONE! YOUR LOVE MUST WAIT UNTIL I FORCE ARNOLD LAUBER TO COME TO ME ON HIS KNEES! THEN... AND ONLY THEN, WILL I GIVE YOU MY LOVE! BUT FIRST— GET RID OF— THAT!


I'M A FOOL, I KNOW! BUT I LOVE YOU SO MADLY, I CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT ANYMORE! ALL RIGHT... I'LL DO AS YOU SAY! ONLY YOU'RE MINE, DO YOU HEAR? MINE! MINE!
OF COURSE, MY DEAR! BUT YOU MUST BE PATIENT! AFTER ALL, YOU'VE WAITED THIS LONG... A LITTLE WHILE LONGER WON'T BE SO MUCH!
EARLY THE NEXT MORNING...
OH! ARNOLD! LOOK!
IT'S... IT'S OTTO! HE'S DEAD! SO... MURDER HAS ENTERED OUR PARADISE! WHAT WILL BE NEXT?
THIS WILL BE NEXT, ARNOLD! I AM THE RULER OF THIS ISLAND ...AND YOU ARE, ALL MY SLAVES!
NEVER! NEVER! I'D DIE FIRST!
THAT, TOO, CAN BE ARRANGED! BUT IT PLEASES ME TO TRY WITH YOU A BIT LONGER! LISTEN, YOU STUBBORN FOOL... UNLESS YOU COME TO ME, THAT LITTLE MOUSE AT YOUR SIDE WILL BE KILLED! RIGHT, JOHANN?
ANYTHING YOU SAY, BARONESS!
WHAT SORT OF CREATURE ARE YOU? WHY DO YOU INSIST ON RUINING OUR HAPPINESS? YOU ALREADY HAVE EVERYTHING YOU WISH... MONEY... LOVE! LEAVE US ALONE!
TUSH! I'M NOT SPEAKING TO YOU, WOMAN!
THIS IS MY ULTIMATUM... YOUR LOVE, ARNOLD, OR YOUR WIFE'S LIFE! IF JOHANN KILLS HER, NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW! I HAVE COVERED EVERYTHING... WE ARE COMPLETELY CUT OFF FROM CIVILIZATION... AND I AM THE ONLY POWER HERE! AS YOU HAVE SEEN, IT WON'T BE JOHANN'S FIRST MURDER! HE IS MY WILLING SLAVE, AS YOU TOO, WILL SOON BE! COME NOW... WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER!
THIS IS MY ANSWER!
ARNOLD! HE'LL KILL YOU!
HA! HA! HA! MORE AMUSEMENT! IT THRILLS ME TO SEE MEN FIGHT FOR MY LOVE!
6

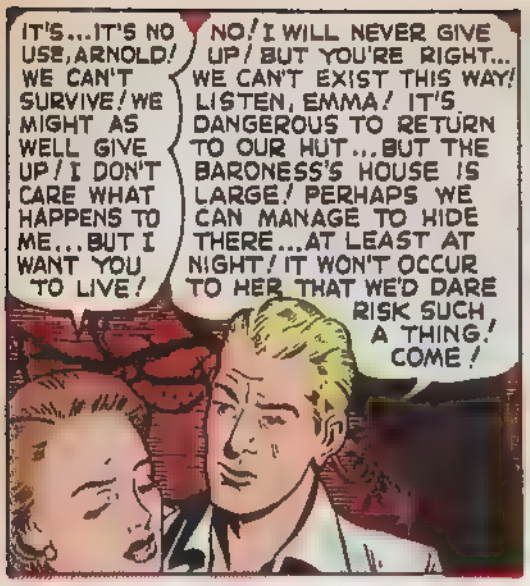


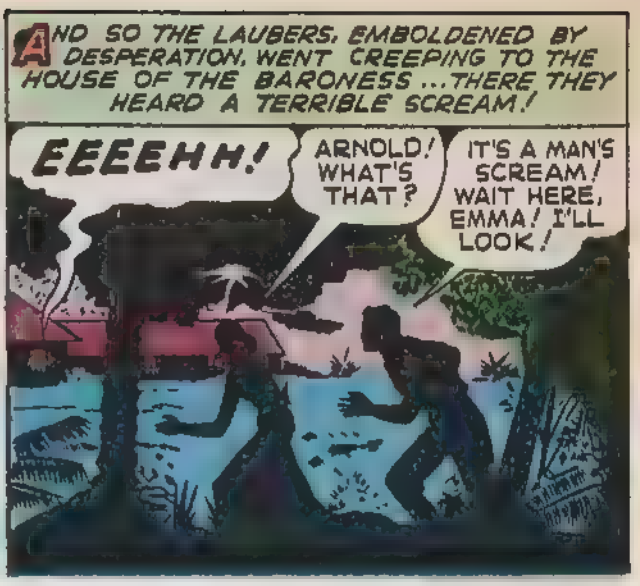




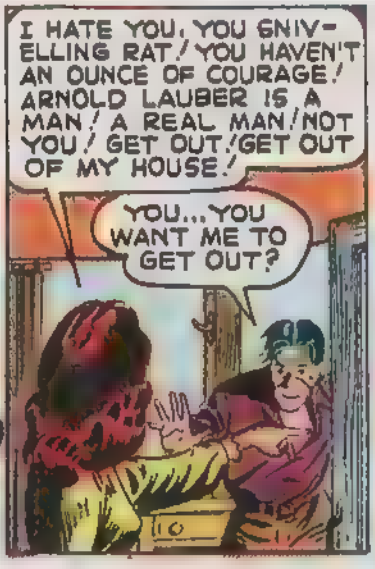


NIGHT ENGULFED THE ISLAND, AND IN THE JUNGLE, SAVAGE EYES GLARED AT THE TERRIFIED COUPLE! ARNOLD AND EMMA WERE AFRAID TO MOVE... AFRAID TO BREATHE.. DREADING THAT EACH MOMENT WOULD BE THEIR LAST! AND IN THE DISTANCE, A SARDONIC LAUGH RANG OUT AS THE BARONESS REJOICED IN HER CONQUEST-TO-BE!

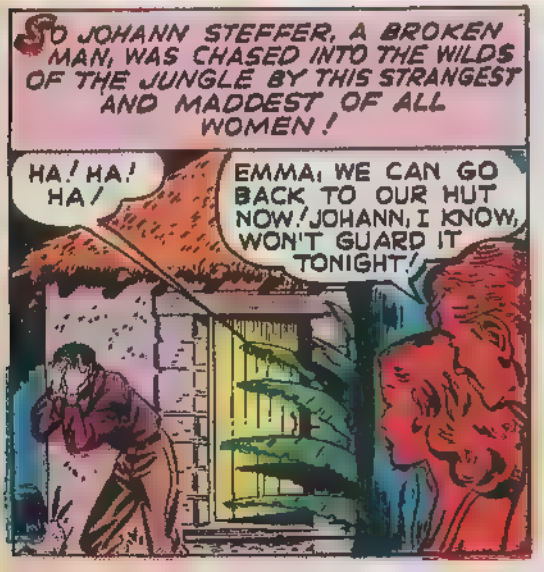

IT'S...IT'S NO USE, ARNOLD! WE CAN'T SURVIVE! WE MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP! I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME...BUT I WANT YOU TO LIVE!
NO! I WILL NEVER GIVE UP! BUT YOU'RE RIGHT... WE CAN'T EXIST THIS WAY! LISTEN, EMMA! IT'S DANGEROUS TO RETURN TO OUR HUT...BUT THE BARONESS'S HOUSE IS LARGE! PERHAPS WE CAN MANAGE TO HIDE THERE...AT LEAST AT NIGHT! IT WON'T OCCUR TO HER THAT WE'D DARE RISK SUCH A THING! COME!

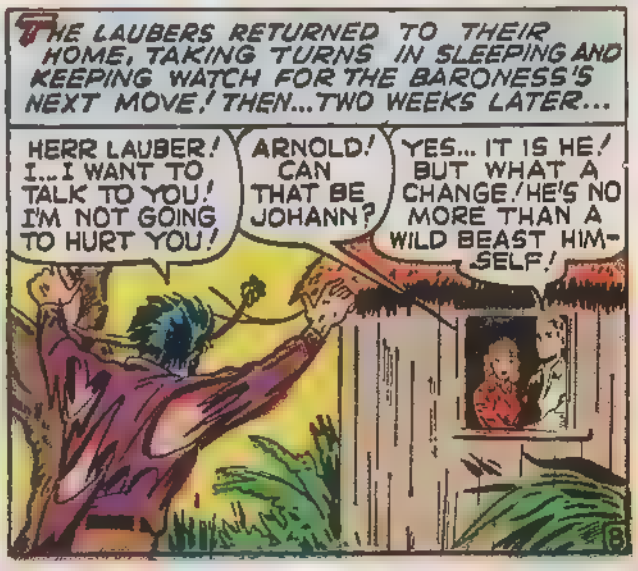

AND SO THE LAUBERS, EMBOLDENED BY DESPERATION, WENT CREEPING TO THE HOUSE OF THE BARONESS ...THERE THEY HEARD A TERRIBLE SCREAM!
EEEEHH!
ARNOLD! WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S A MAN'S SCREAM! WAIT HERE, EMMA! I'LL LOOK!

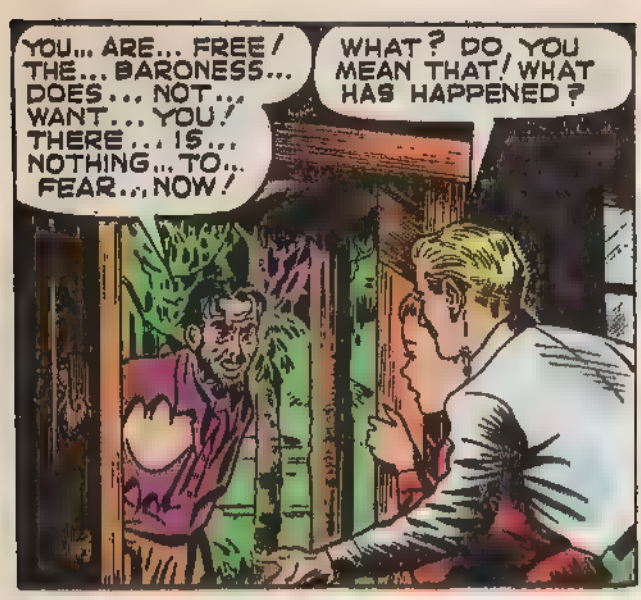
SO! YOU DARE TO KISS ME, DO YOU, YOU DOG? TAKE THAT! AND THAT!
ELOISE! DON'T! DON'T! I BEG YOU!

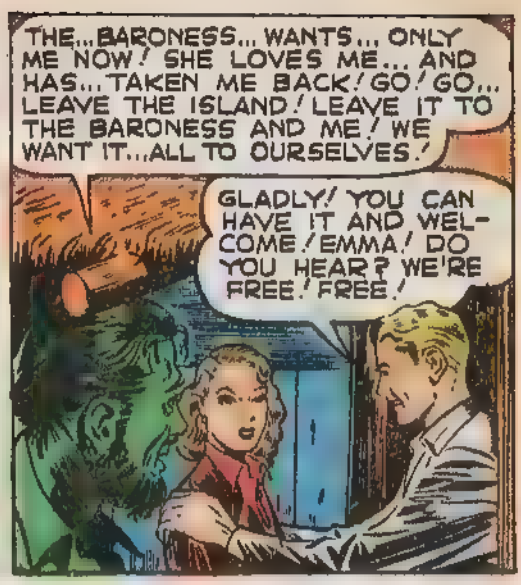

I HATE YOU, YOU GNIVELLING RAT! YOU HAVEN'T AN OUNCE OF COURAGE! ARNOLD LAUBER IS A MAN! A REAL MAN! NOT YOU! GET OUT! GET OUT OF MY HOUSE!
YOU...YOU WANT ME TO GET OUT?

YES, YOU OAF! HOW CAN I MAKE IT ANY PLAINER? OUT! OUT! INTO THE JUNGLE! DIE, FOR ALL I CARE! I'VE GOT YOUR GUN, JOHANN... AND I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU! GO! GO, BEFORE I SHOOT YOU LIKE THE CRAVEN DOG YOU ARE!


SO JOHANN STEFFER, A BROKEN MAN, WAS CHASED INTO THE WILDS OF THE JUNGLE BY THIS STRANGEST AND MADDEST OF ALL WOMEN!
HA! HA! HA!
EMMA, WE CAN GO BACK TO OUR HUT NOW! JOHANN, I KNOW, WON'T GUARD IT TONIGHT!

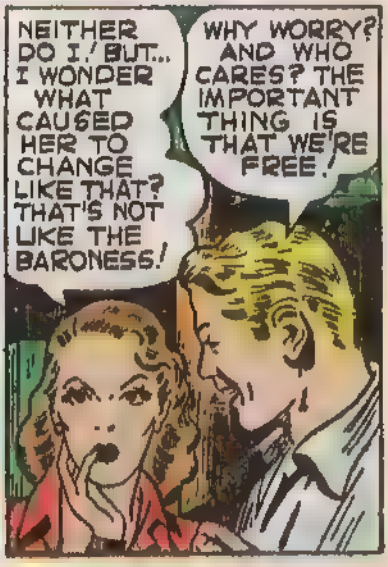

THE LAUBERS RETURNED TO THEIR HOME, TAKING TURNS IN SLEEPING AND KEEPING WATCH FOR THE BARONESS'S NEXT MOVE! THEN...TWO WEEKS LATER...
HERR LAUBER! I...I WANT TO TALK TO YOU! I'M NOT GOING TO HURT YOU!
ARNOLD! CAN THAT BE JOHANN?
YES... IT IS HE! BUT WHAT A CHANGE! HE'S NO MORE THAN A WILD BEAST HIMSELF!

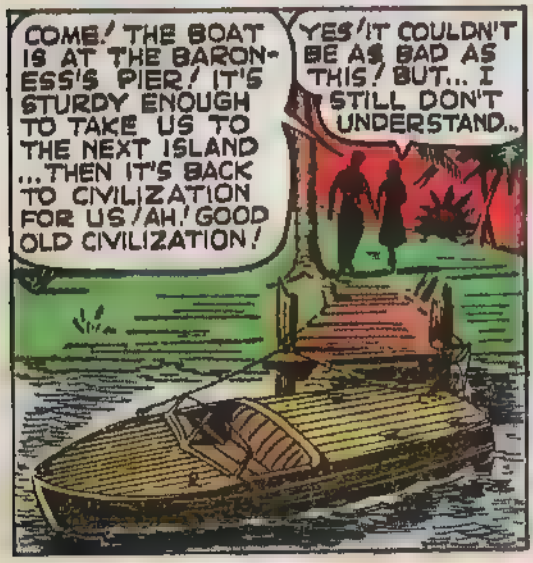

YOU... ARE... FREE! THE... BARONESS... DOES... NOT... WANT... YOU! THERE... IS... NOTHING... TO... FEAR... NOW!
WHAT? DO YOU MEAN THAT! WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

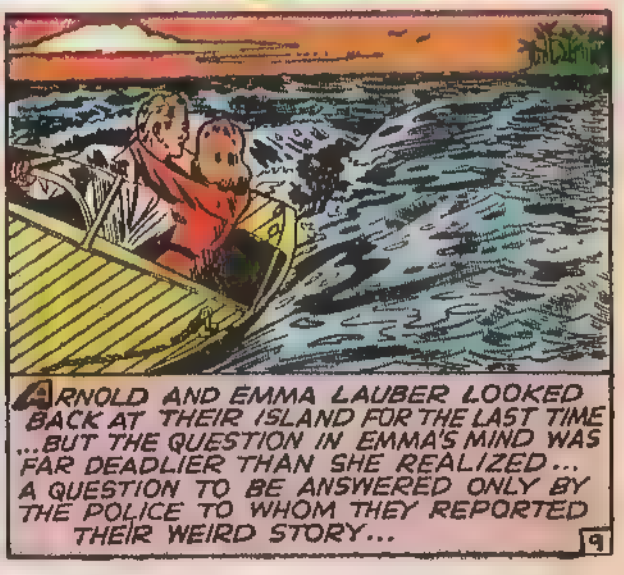

THE... BARONESS... WANTS... ONLY ME NOW! SHE LOVES ME... AND HAS... TAKEN ME BACK! GO! GO... LEAVE THE ISLAND! LEAVE IT TO THE BARONESS AND ME! WE WANT IT... ALL TO OURSELVES!
GLADLY! YOU CAN HAVE IT AND WELCOME! EMMA! DO YOU HEAR? WE'RE FREE! FREE!

IT'S TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! WHAT CAUSED HER TO CHANGE HER MIND?
SHE... SHE FEELS DIFFERENTLY... ABOUT EVERYTHING! GO! TAKE HER BOAT! SHE DOESN'T WANT IT ANY LONGER!

NOW... SHE... WANTS... ONLY ME! I HAVE WON HER AT LAST!
COME, EMMA! I DON'T WANT TO STAY HERE A MINUTE LONGER!


NEITHER DO I! BUT... I WONDER WHAT CAUSED HER TO CHANGE LIKE THAT? THAT'S NOT LIKE THE BARONESS!
WHY WORRY? AND WHO CARES? THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT WE'RE FREE!


COME! THE BOAT IS AT THE BARONESS'S PIER! IT'S STURDY ENOUGH TO TAKE US TO THE NEXT ISLAND ...THEN IT'S BACK TO CIVILIZATION FOR US! AH! GOOD OLD CIVILIZATION!
YES! IT COULDN'T BE AS BAD AS THIS! BUT... I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND...


ARNOLD AND EMMA LAUBER LOOKED BACK AT THEIR ISLAND FOR THE LAST TIME ...BUT THE QUESTION IN EMMA'S MIND WAS FAR DEADLIER THAN SHE REALIZED... A QUESTION TO BE ANSWERED ONLY BY THE POLICE TO WHOM THEY REPORTED THEIR WEIRD STORY...
9

SO! AN ODD STORY INDEED, MR. LAUBER! AND YOU SAY ONE OF THE MEN WAS KILLED, EH? VERY WELL, I SHALL GO THERE TO INVESTIGATE AT ONCE... AND PERSONALLY!
WANTED
TRY TO BE KIND TO JOHANN STEFFER, IF YOU CAN! SHE DROVE HIM INSANE...
THE NEXT DAY...
GOOD... MORNING ...WHAT. ...CAN... I... DO...FOR... YOU?
WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BARONESS!
COME! I SHALL TAKE YOU TO HER! BUT SHE WON'T LIKE THIS INTERRUPTION! SHE WANTS TO BE ALONE WITH ME... AND ONLY ME!
DARLING... HERE ARE SOME GENTLEMEN WHO WANT TO MEET YOU!
A GRAVE!
HE'S MAD ...TRULY MAD!
THERE... NOW WILL YOU GO AWAY AND LEAVE US ALONE? SHE'S MINE... ALL MINE AT LAST! NO ONE CAN WANT HER NOW... AND SHE CAN WANT NO ONE BUT ME! I'VE WON HER! I'VE WON HER!
I'M AFRAID YOU WILL HAVE TO COME WITH US! GET HIM, BILLINGS!
YES, SIR!
NO! NO! I WANT TO STAY HERE! YOU CAN'T TAKE ME AWAY!
LOOK OUT! THE CLIFF!
EEEEE!
GOOD LORD!
SO ENDED AT LAST THE EVIL BLIGHT THAT RAVAGED A MODERN GARDEN OF EDEN... BUT EVEN IN PARADISE, JUSTICE COULD NOT BE DENIED!
THE END

DEATH TEACHES A LESSON..

THERE wasn't a cloud in the sky. White peaked mountains bit into the clear blue. The ground was covered with dry, fluffy snow and crystal sharp icicles swung easily in the depths of tall evergreens, glistening liquidly in the brilliant sunlight.

The snow was ski deep and crunched sharply under Larry's boots. He walked quickly, his hands buried in his pockets, a happy grin on his youthful face.

"Oh, brother," he murmured, "what a dilly of a day No school for me when the snow's like this." He'd left his skis at old Pete's place for Mom didn't approve of hookey and she'd be bound to catch him taking them out of the garage. The last time he cut classes it had cost him two weeks' allowance, and Pop had almost made him give up football. "You have plenty of time, it seems, to practice every afternoon and all Saturday morning, but school is just too much trouble. From now on you'll study your lessons instead of being a star football player!!" Larry had really had to talk some to convince his pop that he'd really cut out playing hookey and settle down to his books. His conscience pricked him slightly on this clear, sunlit day. "But, gosh," he argued with himself, "I'll study twice as hard tomorrow!"

He swung around a bend in the path and slowed up suddenly. A soldier was sitting by Pete's door. His eyes were closed and one arm was in a sling. It wasn't until Larry was fairly near that he saw the crutch.

"Hi," he said with more confidence than he felt. "Pete in?"

The soldier yawned and looked up at the young boy. "Not right now," he said. There was a moment's pause.

"Well," Larry said finally, "I came for my skis. Just tell Pete that Larry Stone was here."

"Sure thing," the soldier grinned. He had a slow, friendly sort of smile. It chased away the deep lines around his mouth and eyes. "No school today?" he asked casually.

"Oh, sure," Larry replied gruffly, "but——"

"I get it," the soldier interrupted. "The snow is perfect for skiing and tomorrow may be too late. That the idea?"

"Sure, sure," Larry agreed eagerly. "That's the ticket. Thought for a moment you'd lace into me. Bet you played hookey plenty of times when you were in school," he added wisely.

"You got me there," his companion answered. "Ted Long was never one to park his feet beneath a school desk when the snow was right for skiing."

"Ted Long!" the boy exclaimed. "Say, didn't you just get back from the Pacific?"

"Yes," the soldier said shortly. He wasn't smiling now. "Where do you plan to ski? Deer run?" he asked abruptly.

"Yeah," Larry answered hastily, "but tell me about that last battle, will you, Ted. Gosh, good thing I played hookey at that!"

Ted glanced angrily at the boy but suddenly he said thoughtfully. "Sure, I'll tell you. It was about six in the morning and the sun was just about topping the nearest jeep when we were sent out on a particularly nasty job. There were six of us and the going was tough but it was our job, so we didn't gripe—not much, anyway."

He paused and shifted his stiff leg gingerly.

"Go on," Larry urged impatiently. Ted was serious now, the grin was gone from his face and Larry noticed the grim lines were back around his mouth and eyes.

"It wasn't a very nice detail," Ted continued slowly. "Six of us were sent out and only two of us returned. We knew that when we started, but we said we'd do it and we did. There were some comfy foxholes on the way—a ticket to safety. That would have been the easy way, Larry, but we kept on going." He paused. "When you're a man, kid," he continued gravely, "and you have a job to do, you don't play hookey."

Larry nervously shifted his weight from one foot to another and looked quickly away from the wounded soldier. For a moment or two neither one spoke.

"How about it, Larry?" Ted finally asked softly.

The boy looked up and grinned sheepishly. "Me for school. That's my job, I guess," he said. "I'll bypass the easy way from here on in, Ted."

He was whistling as he walked back toward school.

THE GHOST RETURNS..

THE rain slid easily down the windows and formed small puddles on the stone sill. A faint breeze eased through the trees as a thin mist settled softly over the sleeping town. Young Bud sat quietly at his window and gazed vacantly into the night. He listened intently for a while but no sound came from his mother's room. She was asleep. He glanced at the small clock on his desk. It was nearly two-thirty. Bob would be home soon. The door creaked slightly and he swung around as his brother entered noiselessly.

Bob tossed his tunic on the bed. "Hello, kid" he whispered. "No shut-eye tonight?"

"Oh, sure," Bud answered hastily. "Rain woke me up"

The lean, sunburnt youth looked at him searchingly for several moments then smiled knowingly. "How about you and I talking this over?" he asked gently. "Mom's been gravely ill since I've been overseas, hasn't she?"

"Pretty much," Bud said shortly.

"And seeing as there's always been just you and I to take care of her, you had to do the job by yourself with me away. Is that the ticket?" Bob asked.

"Yeah, sure," the youngster answered hurriedly "Mom's okay now, tho"

"Thanks to you," the soldier said solemnly.

"What do you mean?"

"Let me have it, Bud," Bob said. "Did you save it?"

For a long moment the young boy said nothing This secret of his that had been locked so tightly away in his heart for these past never-ending months could be shared now, at last. He handed the piece of paper to his brother.

"When did this arrive?" Bob asked quietly.

"Two months ago," the youngster replied.

"And you never told mother," Bob said as if to himself. "All this time you faced this by yourself."

"Mom couldn't know," Bud cried. "The shock would have killed her. Then I didn't believe it anyway. It couldn't be true!"

"How did you know it couldn't be true?" Bob asked softly, as he looked at the telegram in his hand which read, "We regret to inform you——"

"Oh, I knew!" Bud answered simply. "I just knew!"

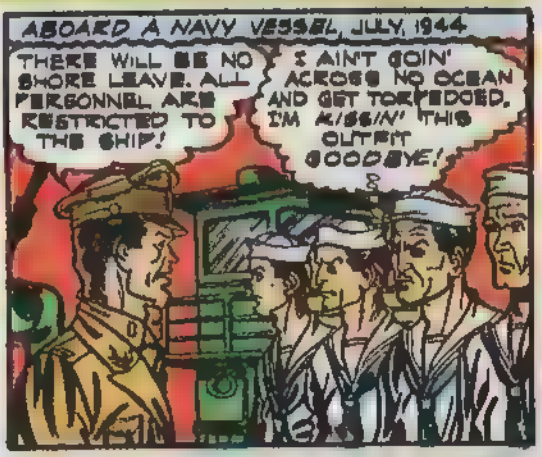
THE END

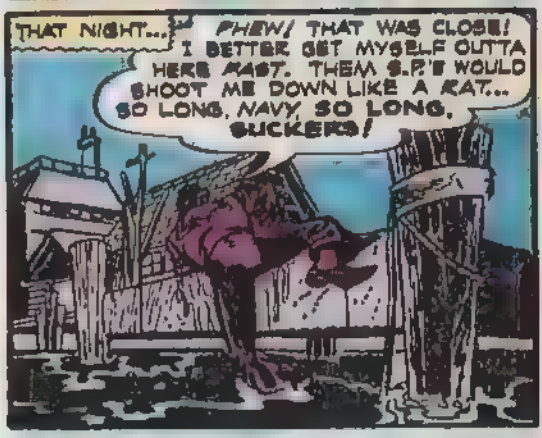
STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 OF

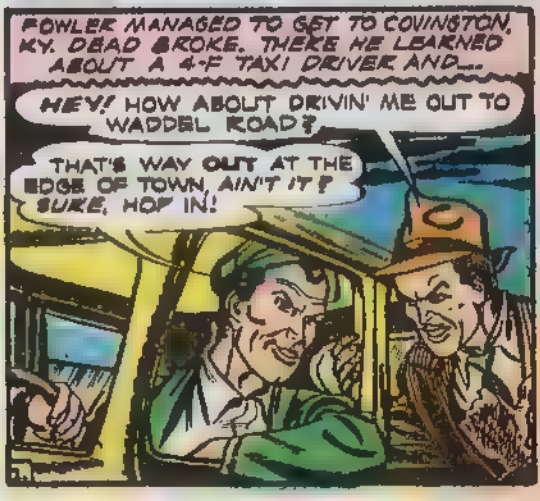
SPOOK is published bi-monthly at New York, N Y, for October 1, 1952, State of New York, County of New York, ss. Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Jerome A. Kramer, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the business manager of the aforesaid publication, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily, weekly, semiweekly or triweekly newspaper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations), printed on the reverse of this form, to wit: That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor and business managers are: Publisher, Star Publications, Inc., 286-5th Avenue, New York City 1; Editor, Leonard B Cole, 286-5th Avenue, New York City 1; Business Manager, Jerome A Kramer, 286-5th Avenue, New York City 1. That the owner is: Star Publications, Inc. 545-5th Avenue, New York City 1; Jerome A. Kramer, 545-5th Avenue, New York City 1. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders and security holders if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given, also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner, and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him. Signed: Jerome A. Kramer, business manager Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of October, 1952. Gervasio Lopez, Notary Public My commission expires March 30, 1954.

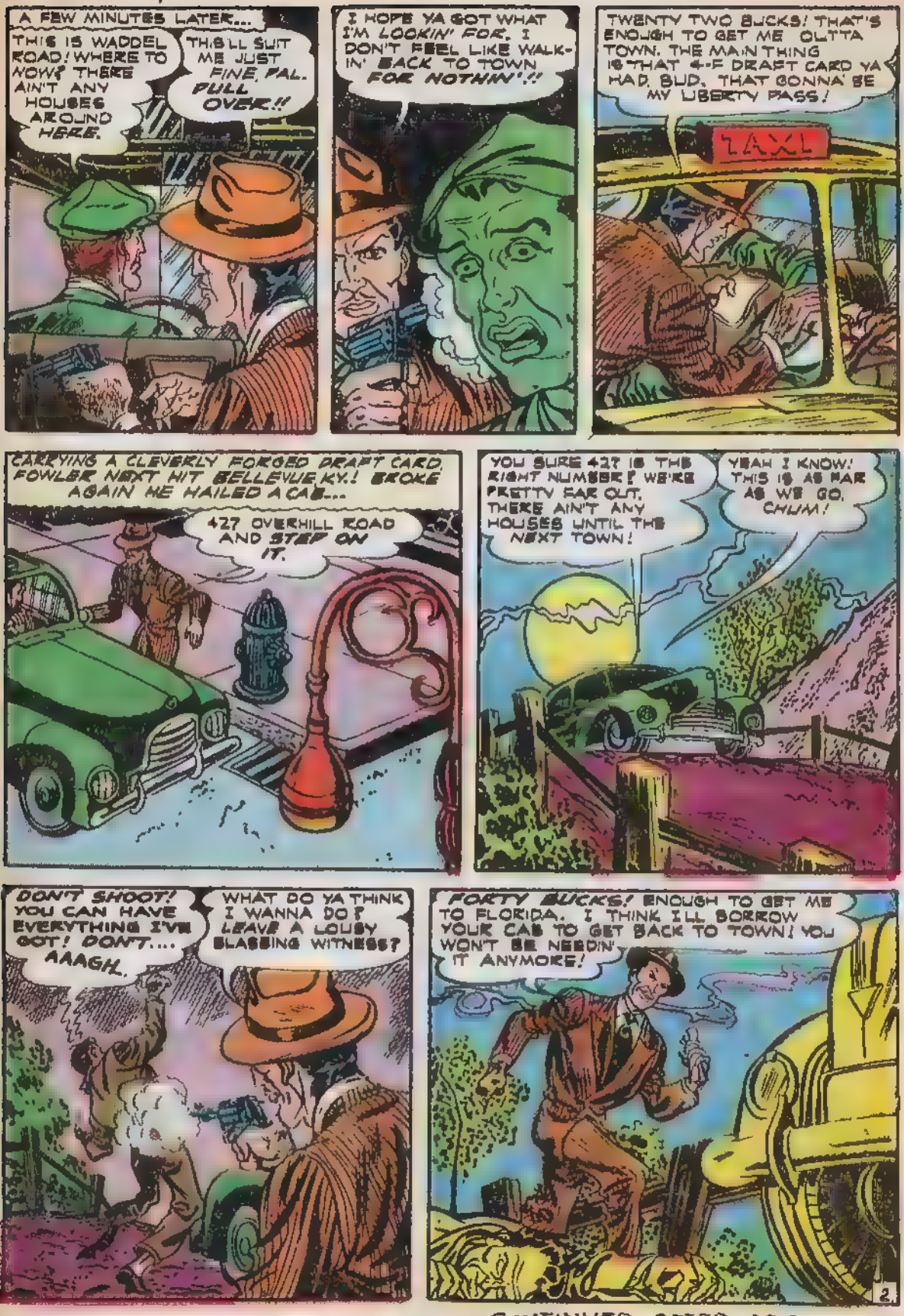
THE WEIRD MASK OF DEATH..

A CONTEMPTIBLE, MURDEROUS SNEAK, *ARTHUR WILLIAM FOWLER* KILLED EVERY TIME HIS MONEY RAN LOW. HIS BRIEF CAREER ENCOMPASSED FOUR MURDERS AND GAVE MIAMI POLICE ONE OF THEIR WEIRDEST AND MOST BAFFLING CASES...









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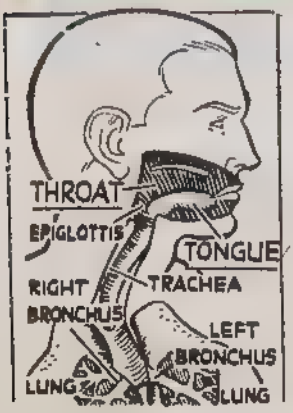

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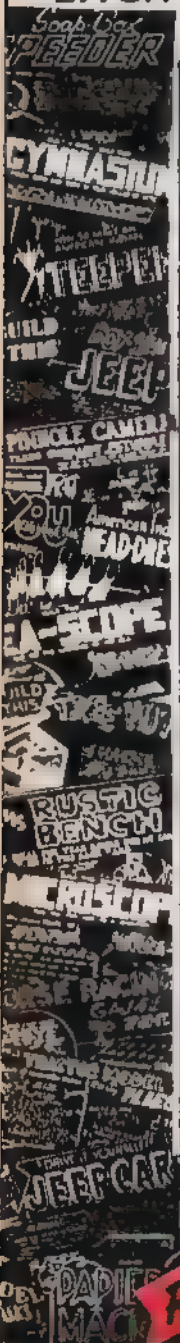

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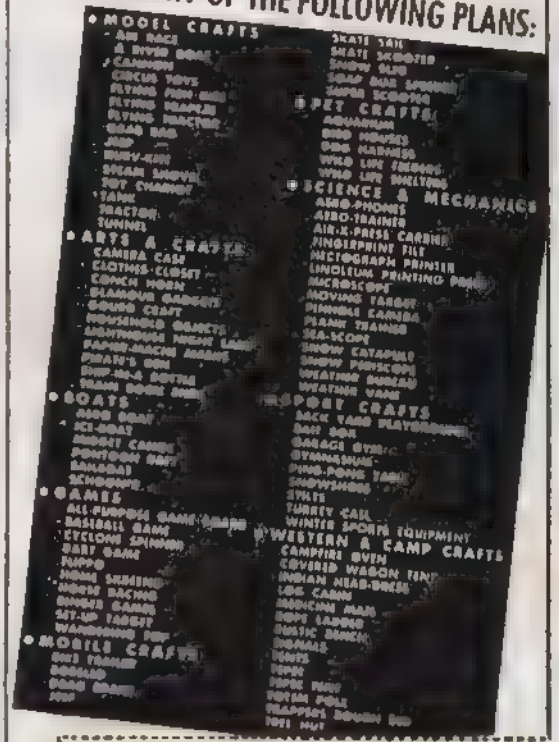

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FOWLER REACHED MIAMI, THERE HE HEARD ABOUT A RICH MANUFACTURER AND HIS WIFE...ONE NIGHT...
IT'S GOOD TO BE HOME! I'M ALL TIRED OUT!
SO AM I, DEAR. I'LL BE GLAD TO GET THIS JEWELRY OFF AND BACK IN THE SAFE. I GET SO NERVOUS WHEN I WEAR IT.
WELL YA AIN'T GONNA GET NERVOUS NO MORE. I'LL DO THE WORRYIN' FOR YA! GET THEM HANDS UP!
...W-WHAT...?
O.K. GET THAT BRACELET AND THEM RINGS OFF... YOU, GIMME YA WALLET. SNAP IT UP! I AIN'T GOT ALL NIGHT.
DON'T CALL ANY COPPERS FOR AT LEAST TEN MINUTES OR I'LL COME BACK AND BRAIN YA BOTH, GET ME?
CALL THE POLICE, ELLEN! I'LL GET THIS RAT IF I HAVE TO CHASE HIM TO JACKSONVILLE!
THE DIRTY ♥$%...?!' I'LL SPREAD HIS ROTTEN BRAINS ALL OVER THE STREET!
STOP YOU DIRTY THIEF! STOP OR I'LL SHOOT!
YA $@# $%..! YA AIN'T GONNA STOP ME WITH A HAUL LIKE THIS! I'LL GET YA FOR THIS SOME DAY!

IF I'DA KNOWN THAT RAT HAD A GAT I'DA SHOT HIM SO FULL OF HOLES YA COULD SEE THROUGH HIM!
IN HIS HASTE TO ESCAPE, FOWLER PEDDLED INTO A RESTRICTED AREA..
WHO CAN BE COMING ALONG HERE ON A BIKE THIS TIME OF NIGHT?..HEY YOU, COME HERE. WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
A COPPER! I'LL FX THAT STINKIN' BULL!
DON'T YOU KNOW THIS IS A RESTRICTED AREA? YOU GOT ANY CREDENTIALS ON YOU?
TAKE IT EASY, BUD. I GOT CREDENTIALS ALL YOU'LL EVER WANT!
THERE'S YA CREDENTIALS, COPPER, RED HOT ONES!
WHY I'LL.. ..EEEUNHH.
YOU FILTHY RAT, COME BACK HERE, DO YOU..UNHH..
YII.. MY HAND.. YA SHOT MY HAND...
MINUTES LATER..
LAND THEN HE RAN OFF THAT WAY! THE BIKE IS OVER THERE. FOOK HAL, IT WAS TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING!
BIKE, EH? THAT'S THE SAME GUY THAT PULLED THE HOLDUP OVER ON GISSENAH DRIVE! DON'T WORRY, WE'VE GOT A DRAGNET OUT. THAT RATTY FEY IF WE CAN HELP IT!
MEANWHILE FOWLER WAS UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS...
HOLY SMOKE! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, BLOODY? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU BEEN THROUGH A MEAT GRINDER!

YOU'RE LUCKY YOU FOUND ME, THIS TIME OF NIGHT! I JUST COME FROM TAKIN' A LATE FARE HOME. WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
I GOT IN A WRECK! LUCKY I GOT OUT ALIVE!
WHERE DO YA WANT TO GO? AS I WAS... HEY! WHAT YOU GONNA DO? WHAT'S THAT GUN FOR!
NEVER MIND WHERE I WANNA GO. YOU'RE GETTIN' OUT RIGHT HERE!
HEY! YOU AIN'T GONNA ROB ME, ARE YA? I GOTTA WIFE AND KIDS. I GOTTA--AIEE--
TOUGH, AIN'T IT!
THIS CAB OUGHTA GET ME THROUGH ANY LINES..WHAT AIN'T YOU DEAD YET? I'LL FIX THAT. YOU AIN'T GONNA BE AROUND TO IDENTIFY LITTLE GEORGIE FOWLER!
HERE, CHUM, SOMETHIN' TO PUT YA OUTTA YA MISERY!
BLAM
FIFTY SMACKERS! EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS! AFTER TONIGHT I CAN START LIVIN'! NO MORE OF THEM HUNGRY DAYS FOR ME. I'LL SHOW THEM PLAYBOYS HOW TO PLAY!
NOW I GOTTA GET DOWN TO THE SHORE AND GET OUT OF HERE. THEM COPS'D BLOW MY HEAD OFF IF THEY GOT HOLD OF ME! I GOTTA BLOW FAST!!

I'LL GET ONE OF THEM BOATS AND GET ACROSS THE BAY. THEY'LL NEVER THINK OF LOOKIN' FOR ME THERE. I'LL BLOW THE STATE. THEM BULLS NEVER LET UP ON YA WHEN YA KNOCK ONE OF 'EM OFF!
WHY DID I HAVE TO BUMP A LOUSY COP? THEY'LL FRY ME SURE! AND ME WITH A WINGED MITT! WHAT AM I GONNA DO?
HEY STOP! COME BACK WITH THAT BOAT!
THEY'RE AFTER ME ALREADY! %&#!! THEY'LL KILL ME! I GOTTA GET OUT! I GOTTA!
I FOOL THE STUPID $#@!"? %..! I'LL DOUBLE BACK DOWN THE BEACH AND LAND ON THE SIDE AGAIN... IF I COULD ONLY START THE MOTOR WITHOUT WAKING THE WHOLE &@9#"? BEACH!
AFTER A TERROR FILLED NIGHT FILLED WITH FEAR OF CAPTURE, FOWLER FLED THE BEACH TO FIND THE RELENTLESS POLICE HAD SEALED OFF THE AREA...
COPPERS! NOTHIN' BUT STINKIN' COPPERS! WHY DON'T THEY LAY OFFA ME!
I OUGHTA KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM! THEY'RE DRIVING ME BATTY! ...THIS HOUSE LOOKS EMPTY. MAYBE I CAN LAY LOW IN THERE!
WHAT DO THEY WANT FROM ME? I HADDA KILL THAT BULL. HE WAS BLOCKIN' MY WAY. IT WAS HIS LIFE OR MINE!

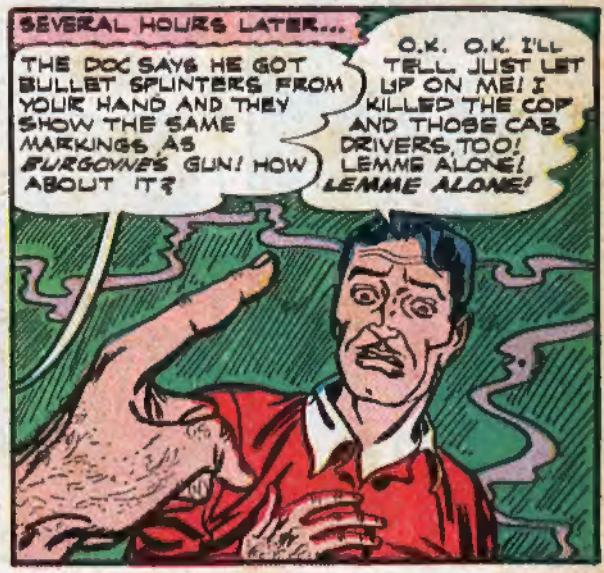
THE PEOPLE HERE MUST BE AWAY! LUCKY FOR THEM! ...HEY! I KNOW HOW TO LAM OUTTA HERE! I'LL SHOW THEM STUPID COPS!
IT'S A GOOD THING I'M A LITTLE GUY AND THIS DAME IS A LITTLE HEFTY NOT A BAD FIT... BUT WHAT AM I GONNA DO ABOUT MY HAIR...I GOT IT!
MAYBE I WON'T LOOK LIKE BETTY GRABLE, BUT THESE MOPS OUGHTA GET ME THROUGH THAT BLOCK DOWN THERE!
YIPE! NOT BAD! I COULD EVEN GO FOR MYSELF! I GOT A GOOD MIND TO MAKE A DATE WITH ONE OF THEM NO GOOD COPS AND KNOCK HIM OFF FOR THE FUN OF IT!
SHORTLY AFTER... FOWLER NONCHALANTLY STROLLS THROUGH THE POLICE BLOCKADE.
HEY, CASSIDY, GET A LOAD OF THIS BLONDE!
HMPH!...OH HOW I'D LIKE TO PUT A COUPLE OF THIRTY EIGHT'S THROUGH FAT BELLIES. BOY WOULD THEY POP A GUT IF THEY KNEW WHO I WAS!
AN HOUR LATER... THE MIAMI RAILROAD STATION...
I BETTER NOT BUY A TICKET. I'LL JUST HOP A TRAIN FOR NEW YORK AND... OOPS!
WHY DON'T YOU WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, MISS? AFTER ALL THIS IS A...
SAM! DID YOU SEE THAT? SHE'S NO WOMAN! I'M GOING TO TELL THAT M.P.
BUT DEAR! IF SHE ISN'T A WOMAN, THEN WHAT IS SHE?
7

RIGHT OVER THERE! THAT'S A MAN DRESSED LIKE A WOMAN! AND DON'T ASK ME HOW I KNOW!
O.K. LADY, I'LL QUESTION WHATEVER IT IS?
THEY SPOTTED ME! I'LL LOSE MYSELF IN THE CROWD!
HEY, YOU STOP! COME BACK HERE!
OH! OH! LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE! I BETTER GIVE THAT M.P. A HAND. PROBABLY A PICKPOCKET OR SOMETHING.
ANOTHER GUY ON MY TAIL! I GOTTA GET THEM BULLS OFF MY NECK OR I'LL GO NUTS!
STOP OR I'LL SHOOT!
HALT! STOP HIM!
HOLD HER! HOLD HER! STOP THAT WOMAN!
WHY DON'T THEY STOP THAT @&*% BELLOWING? THE WHOLE CITY'LL BE AFTER ME!
NOT SO FAST LADY! LET'S STOP AND TALK!
OOF!
LEMME GO OR I'LL KNOCK YA BRAINS OUT, YA STUPID @*!%.
HOLY SMOKE! FOR A DAME YOU GOT MUSCLES!
O.K. CUT THAT OUT. GET UP OUT OF THERE!
WHERE ARE YA TAKIN' ME? YA HOLDIN' ME FOR NOTHIN'! AIN'T YA NEVER HEARD ABOUT FALSE ARREST?
SURE! SURE! PAL. WE'RE JUST GONNA BOOK YOU ON SUSPICION! THERE'S SOMETHING AWFULLY PHONEY ABOUT THIS!

AT HEADQUARTERS...
NOW, LET'S SEE WHAT YA LOOK LIKE WITHOUT THAT PHONEY HAIR... THERE, THAT'S BETTER. NOW COME CLEAN, WHAT'S THE MASQUERADE FOR?
WHY DON'T YA LEMME OUTTA HERE? I AIN'T DONE NOTHIN'! LEMME ALONE!

O.K. INNOCENT, LET'S HEAR WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HAND? MAKE IT A GOOD ONE!
HEY JOE, THAT GUY WHO WAS WITH BURGOYNE, WHEN HE WAS KILLED LAST NIGHT, SAYS HE'S SURE HAL CLIPPED THE KILLER IN THE HAND
I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN! JUST LEMME ALONE. ALL YOU GUYS WANTA DO IS FRY ME! LEMME ALONE.

GET A SET OF THESE PRINTS OFF TO THE F.B.I. FOR CHECKING.. FINLEY GO FOR A DOC, I WANT THIS WOUND EXAMINED!
THE F.B.I.! NOW THEY'LL FIND OUT I'M A DESERTER! THEN THEY'LL FIND OUT ABOUT KENTUCKY! WHAT AM I GONNA DO?


SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
THE DOC SAYS HE GOT BULLET SPLINTERS FROM YOUR HAND AND THEY SHOW THE SAME MARKINGS AS BURGOYNE'S GUN! HOW ABOUT IT?
O.K. O.K. I'LL TELL. JUST LET UP ON ME! I KILLED THE COP AND THOSE CAB DRIVERS, TOO! LEMME ALONE! LEMME ALONE!

LOOKS LIKE THE HOT SEAT FOR YOU, CHUM.
THE HOT SEAT? YOU'LL NEVER BURN ME, YA STINK! NOT GEORGIE FOWLER.

NO! STOP!
BLAM
AAAGH

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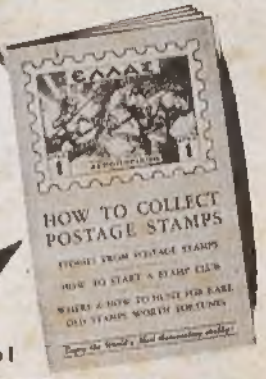

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